



AMERICANS for TAX REFORM

April 9, 2013

The Honorable Fred Upton
2183 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Greg Walden
2182 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Upton & Congressman Walden,

On behalf of Americans for Tax Reform, I write in support of legislation to affirm the policy of the United States regarding Internet governance.

Before the December 2012 World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT), the House unanimously expressed its desire for a free and open Internet by passing H. Con. Res. 127, which supported the multi-stakeholder model and opposed international attempts to regulate the Internet by a vote of 414-0.

In the 113th Congress, the House Energy and Commerce Committee held a joint hearing addressing the results of the December 2012 World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT). At the hearing, Democrats, Republicans, and witnesses were united in their opposition to the expansion of Internet regulation in the updated International Telecommunications Regulations (ITRs). All emphasized their commitment to fighting for the preservation of the free and open Internet as perhaps the single greatest agent of economic and social advancement around the globe.

The Internet is the engine of growth not only in the United States but also around the world; its interconnection capability underlies nearly every sector of our economy. Placing restrictions and burdensome regulations on the Internet will only backfire and result in a massive loss of freedom for everyone. Putting limits on aspiring entrepreneurs and developing countries is not something the United States government or any entity should be in the business of doing.

This mark-up is another step in the on going process of protecting a free and open Internet from over zealous regulators. Making the language from H. Con. Res. 127 official United States policy, would demonstrate to the world the United States' unwavering commitment to a free and open Internet

Sincerely,

Grover Norquist
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